(c) whether it is a fact that taking advantagas of the above policy, the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, has increased the price of Haldia slack Wax by Rs. 800/- per Metric Ton, effective from 15.12.1994, without making any changes in the prices of Barauni Slack Wax and Paraffin Wax Type-III; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that Barauni Slack Wax, Haldia Slack Wax and Paraffin Wax Type-III are related to each other as far as pricing factor is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Slack wax being a free trade product, the oil companies are permitted to sell the product at market determined prices depending upon the quality available from individual producing refinery.

Supply of Gas to gas--based fertilizer Plants in Tripura

512. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reserves of natural gas proved in the four gas fields of Tripura;

(b) what will be the quantity of gas in MMSCMD available by 1996-97;

(c) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers had recommended for allocation of Natural Gas to two proposals from interested promoters, including KRIBHCO, for setting up fertilizer plants in Tripura; if so, whether the linkage has been given;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Gas Authority of India Limited had asked for 30 months time to make available only 0.5 MMSCMD gas to one industrial group interested in setting up a Methanol plant in Tripura, if so, the reasons for such unusually long time to supply the required gas; and

(e) what measures are being taken by ONGC/GAIL to make sufficient gas available to the entrepreneurs interested in setting up gas-based fertilizer plants in Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) The recoverable reserves as on 1/4/94 stood at 13.58 BCM.

(b) According to the 1994 profile of ONGC, upto 2.16 MMSCMD could be made available.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers had recommended allocation of natural gas to KRIBHCO. However, KRIBHCO is not presently interested in pursuing the proposal.

(d) A lead time of 30—36 months is required to set up additional production and handling facilities due to logistics constraints in the region.

(e) ONGC/GAIL take the required steps only after an allocation is made and the gas supply contract is signed by the party.